IN ACADEMICS, IN ATHLETICS, IN LIFE, & IN CHRIST.

2018/2019

CAK WARRIORS BASKETBALL

Boys Varsity
State Tournament Appearances 2005, 2016
Region Tournament Championships 2003, 2005

Girls Varsity
State Tournament Appearance 2013
Region Tournament Championships 2010, 2013

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Though Farragut High School varsity basketball suffered heavy graduation losses following last season, second year head coach Jon Higgins apparently has patched things up pretty well.

“I think we’ve got good depth this year,” said Higgins, whose Admirals finished 16-14 last season. “We’re going to have a lot of guys who are going to be inexperienced, but they’re good players.

“I think a strength of ours this year will be the ability to interchange guys who can play different positions and can play different rotations,” the Admirals skipper added. “I think that’s going to work well for us this year.”

As for concerns, “with inexperience you always worry about defense,” Higgins said. “Rebounding may also be a little challenge for us, especially early on. We’re going to have to work really hard to rebound at a level in which my teams are accustomed to rebounding.

“We lack in size in the post, but overall I think we’ve got good size,” he added. “I’ve got to get my guards to understand they need to rebound a little bit better on the defensive end.

“If we can do that, then we can try and equal out the rebounding that we may not get from the inside.

“But again it’s always a challenge trying to get guys to do things they are not accustomed to doing.”

Individually, “I think Will Brown is going to play an important part for us this year. … He can play (point, shooting guard and power forward),” Higgins said about the versatile senior. “I expect him to be a leader for our basketball team. I expect him to have a good year.

“Same for Robby Geron,” he added.

For the last two years, the Farragut High School girls basketball team has had its share of struggles. During that time, the Lady Admirals have endured more than their share of injuries.

“We want to get back to where we were about three years ago when we were winning district and region championships and we were competing to go to state,” said FHS head coach Jason Mayfield, who opens his eighth season at the school. “We had some outside forces find their way into our game and I hate to blame it on injuries, because it is what it is.

“We’ve had some injuries but that’s no excuse. There are no excuses.”

The Lady Admirals, who went 14-14 last season and didn’t advance out of the District 4-AAA Tournament for the second consecutive year, are looking to return to their past hardwood glory this season.

Top returners for the Lady Admirals include Morgan Carbaugh (a senior and three-year varsity player who has emerged as a team leader, She will play both inside and on the perimeter this season); Claire Wyatt (junior, forward); Sydney Chapman (senior, guard); Brooke Christian (senior, guard/forward); Madison Hodge (junior, point guard) and Hailey Johnson (junior, guard).

Key newcomers are Macy Barnes (a sophomore guard who transferred from Webb School of Knoxville); Avery “Ace” Strickland (two-time James A. Ivey Jr. Memorial Basketball Tournament Most Valuable Player at Farragut Middle School as a guard and forward) and Kelleigh Rogers (a freshman guard).

“Experience will be a strength for us,” Mayfield said. “Even our freshmen have
2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>Mon, Tues, Fri, Sat</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 27-29</td>
<td>Thurs-Sat</td>
<td>Girls Christmas Tournament</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Sat</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 11-19</td>
<td>Mon-Tues</td>
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<td>William Blount</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22-28</td>
<td>Fri-Thurs</td>
<td>Region Tournament</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Girls Substate</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>BoysSubstate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 6-9</td>
<td>Wed-Sat</td>
<td>Girls State Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td>Murfreesboro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 13-16</td>
<td>Wed-Sat</td>
<td>Boys State Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td>Murfreesboro</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*District Games

BOYS

2. Isaiah Smith   G  Fr.
3. Jude Wren      W  Sr.
4. Dillon Atwell  G  Fr.
5. Colby Hale     G  So.
12. Robby Geron   G  Jr.
13. Andrew Howell W  Sr.
15. Owen Blake    P  Sr.
20. Will Brown    G  Sr.
32. Trey Nesbitt  P  So.

GIRLS

10. Ella McFerran G  Fr.
11. Gabi Duncan   G  So.
13. Avery Strickland  G  Fr.
22. Morgan Carbaugh G  Sr.
23. Brooke Christian W  Sr.
32. McCall Willis  P  Fr.
33. Sydney Chapman W  Sr.
34. Keeleigh Rogers PG  Fr.
44. Ashlyn Sheridan G  Fr.
Olivia Campbell  G  Sr.

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Assistant Coaches: Tyler Cate & Marcus Huie

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It’s all about creating mismatches, with interchangeable parts, for Hardin Valley Academy boys varsity basketball.

“This year compared to last year, we’re more athletic, and we are taller and longer across most positions,” said Shane Chambers, who begins his third season as Hawks head coach while with the program during its entire 11-year history. “We’re interchangeable with guards and forwards, so we can provide mismatches that way.

“We’ve also have a lot of guys who have sort of waited for their opportunity, especially this senior class,” he added. “They’re in there working hard.”

The Hawks look to improve on a 13-15 overall record last season.

As for concerns, “One of the biggest challenges is a lack of experience,” Chambers said. “We really only have two returning varsity guys who got the quality minutes last year.

“We’ve also have a lot of guys who have sort of waited for their opportunity, especially this senior class,” he added. “They’re in there working hard.”

There is size at the wing positions with senior Cade Huff (6-foot-4) and Skyler O’Neal, a transfer. “They look to be guys that produce mismatches,” he said.

Juniors Allan Sumner (guard) and Jack Niezgoda (6-foot-2 forward) “are two of our best scorers,” Chambers said.

Junior Tyson Adams, back-up point guard, “is an athlete, and one of the quicker players on the court,” Chambers said.

Overall, “Our team goal is to make it to the Region (2-AAA) Tournament,” Chambers said. “To be in the top four at the end of the District (4-AAA) Tournament, which is a very competitive district.

Other Hawks players are Preston Foster, Rob Kline, Rob Krakoviak, Avery Sonenshein and Wyatt Smith.

HVA girls have ‘more quickness’

With its “CDG trio” last season — star players Abbey Cornelius (post), Lizzie Davis (guard) and Paige Gentry (wing) — Hardin Valley Academy grabbed the District 4-AAA regular season crown while posting a 22-8 overall record.

Though that talented trio has graduated, “I feel like we’ve got more quickness this year,” said head coach Jennifer Galloway, who has led this program since it started from scratch in 2008-09.

“We’re hoping we can score off of that, which would mean trying to score some off of our defense, trying to score in transition,” she added. “We will be less half-court, or less specific structured sets.”

As for concerns, “I think early in the year it’s going to be experience,” Galloway said. “But that’s something that they’re going to gain real quick.”

See HVA GIRLS on Page 13
2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

All times are as follows unless noted otherwise: JV-4:30, GV-6:00, BV-7:30 • JV game subject to change

Sectionals: March 2 (G), March 4 (B) ............................................ • Girls State: March 6-9; Boys State: 13-16

Dist Tourney: Feb 11-20 at William Blount HS Reg Tourney: Feb 22-27 .............................................................................

Nov. 20 ................ Tues ......................................... William Blount ......................................... HVA
Nov. 19 ................ Sat ............................................ TCAT ......................................................... Away
Nov. 15 ................ Tues ......................................... East Hamilton ............................................ Away
Nov. 12 ................ Mon ............................................ CAK ......................................................... Away
Nov. 8 .................. Fri ............................................. Heritage ................................................... Away
Nov. 5 .................. Fri ............................................. Bearden ................................................... Away
Nov. 2 .................. Fri ............................................. William Blount ......................................... Away

Dec. 26-28 .......... Thu-Sat .................................... Sevier Co Holiday Tour. .......................... HVA
Dec. 22-24 .......... Thu-Sat .................................... Smoky Mtn Tournament.......................... HVA
Dec. 19-21 .......... Thu-Sat .................................... CAK Tournament ....................................... HVA
Dec. 12 ................ Fri ............................................. Powell ...................................................... HVA
Dec. 9 .................. Fri ............................................. Heritage ................................................... Away
Dec. 6 .................. Fri ............................................. Farragut .................................................... HVA
Dec. 3 .................. Fri ............................................. William Blount ......................................... HVA

Jan. 28 ................ Fri ............................................. Maryville .................................................. Away
Jan. 25 ................ Tues ......................................... Lenoir City ............................................... Away
Jan. 22 ................ Sat ............................................ JV Tournament (Boys) ............................ Away
Jan. 19 ................ Sat ............................................ JV Tournament (Champ) .......................... Away
Jan. 16 ................ Wed ........................................... CAK ......................................................... Away
Jan. 13 ................ Fri ............................................. Knoxville .................................................. Away
Jan. 8 .................. Fri ............................................. East Hamilton ............................................ Away
Jan. 5 .................. Fri ............................................. Maryville .................................................. Away

Feb. 12 ................ Fri ............................................. Maryville .................................................. Away
Feb. 9 .................. Fri ............................................. Farragut .................................................... HVA
Feb. 6 .................. Fri ............................................. William Blount ......................................... HVA
Feb. 3 .................. Fri ............................................. Catholic .................................................... Away

HARDIN VALLEY ACADEMY HAWKS

BOYS ROSTER

Tyson Adams Junior
Cartez Campbell Senior
Preston Foster Junior
Cade Huff Senior
Bryce Jenkins Senior
Rob Kline Junior
Rob Krakoviak Senior
Jack Niezgoda Junior
Skyler O’Neal Junior
Avery Sonenschein Junior
Wyatt Smith Senior
Allan Sumner Junior

Head Coach: Shane Chambers
Assistant Coaches: David King • Tyler Baker,

GIRLS ROSTER

3  Allie Sexton Jr.  G
10  Tori Adams Jr.  G
11  Kiara Inman Sr.  G
12  Avery Laughtery Fr.  G
20  Ella Barrett Fr.  G
21  Kate Bass Jr.  G
22  Viktoria Emery Sr.  G
24  Oliva Neely Fr.  G
32  Maddie Norris Jr.  P
33  Emma Boekweg So.  P
35  Malaka Grice So.  P

Head Coach: Jennifer Galloway
Assistant Coaches:
Brianne McCrosky,
Tiffany Cantrell • L.C. Wilson

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Parrott wants to put the brakes on BHS boys state title talk

To say Bearden High School's boys basketball team has lofty expectations is a gross understatement.

The Bulldogs won 38 games and reached the Class AAA state semifinals last season, but third-year head coach Jeremy Parrott is quick to remind his veteran and battle-tested squad all that happened last year.

"Last year was a fun year. It was a great year," said Parrott, who guided Bearden to a 38-2 record in 2017-18 and has won 60 of his first 72 games in two years at the helm. "We haven't done anything in '18-'19.

"Each year is a new year with new challenges and we don't know what some of those challenges are yet. We won't know until we get into the season."

However, with all five starters returning the Bulldogs will look to make their third consecutive trip to the Class AAA State Tournament. Bearden made the quarterfinals in 2016-17.

While many in East Tennessee have tabbed the Bulldogs as the favorite to cut down the nets in Murfreesboro in March, Parrott has some short-term goals in mind first.

See BHS BOYS on Page 12

Head Coach: Jeremy Parrott
Asst. Coaches: Tyler Place, Jacob Morton, Eric Sandefur

Lady Bulldogs look for 3rd straight trip to state tourney

Expectations are high for the Bearden High School girls basketball team as the Lady Bulldogs enter the 2018-19 season.

Bearden made a state playoff trip to Murfreesboro and reached the Class AAA semifinals last season, and the Lady Bulldogs have their eyes on a return trip to the Midstate in March.

But head coach Justin Underwood knows things won't come easily for his squad as it plays in District 4-AAA, which features some of the Volunteer State's toughest competition.

The Lady Bulldogs went 29-8 last season and won both the District 4-AAA and Region 2-AAA Tournament championships.

"The goal is to try to win the district and then try to win the region," he said. "Then, you have to win the substate to make it to the state."

Bearden has a solid returning nucleus, which have seen their share of big games over the years.

"Experience is definitely a huge plus," Underwood said. "These girls have played a lot of basketball and they have a lot of experience.

Our seniors have a lot of experience." Moreover, "We've got a good level of toughness and offensively, we're unselfish," Underwood said.

The Lady Bulldogs will alter their style of basketball this season and Underwood said some players must make a few adjustments.

"We're going to play a little different style of basketball this year and some girls are going to have to adjust to some new roles," Underwood said. "The biggest area of concern we have is how well our girls adjust to those new roles.

"Most of the girls on our roster played varsity last year."

Key players for the Lady Bulldogs include Jakhyia Davis (junior, forward); Shainah McLaughlin (senior, guard); Tytiaria Spikes (senior, guard/forward); Annaka Hall (senior, guard/forward); Caitlyn Sherrod (senior, forward); Nah'nya Hussell (junior, guard); Emma Stone (junior, guard) and Zeyyah McLaughlin (sophomore, guard).

Asailia Jenkins, a junior center, will be a key newcomer for the Lady Bulldogs this season.

Perhaps the biggest key to Bearden's recent success is teamwork. Throughout his tenure as coach of the Lady Bulldogs, Underwood has preached unselfishness. He said his team plays its best when it shares the basketball.

Head Coach: Justin Underwood
Asst. Coaches: Ashley Tipton, Cozette Gaspard, Josh Suttles

2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

Nov.15........Thur...........Hall of Champions @ Morristown East..................Home
Nov.17........Sat.............Hall of Champions @ Scott County......................Away
Nov.20..........Tues........Lenoir City.......................................................Away
Nov.23, 24.....Tues........Hardin Valley Classic.........................................HVA
Nov.27........Tues........William Blount.................................................Home
Nov.30........Fri.............Hardin Valley......................................................Home
Dec. 7..........Fri.............Farragut...............................................................Home
Dec.11 ..........Tues........Heritage.................................................................Away
Dec.14........Tues........Maryville.................................................................Away
Dec. 20, 21....Tues........5 Star Prep Classic.............................................William Blount
Dec.27, 28, 29....State Farm Classic.......................................................Murfreesboro
Jan. 8 ........Tues........West..........................................................Home
Jan.10.........Thur...........Catholic...........................................................Home
Jan 11.........Fri.............Heritage.............................................................Home
Jan.15..........Tues...........William Blount.................................................Away
Jan.18..........Fri.............East Hamilton....................................................Away
Jan.22..........Tues...........Catholic..............................................................Away
Jan.25..........Fri.............West.................................................................Home
Jan.29..........Tues...........Lenoir City.........................................................Home
Feb. 1..........Fri.............Hardin Valley.........................................................Away
Feb. 5..........Tues...........Maryville...............................................................Home
Feb. 8..........Fri.............Farragut.................................................................Away
Feb.12.........Tues...........Fulton.................................................................Away
Feb.12-19.......District Tournament.......................................................William Blount
Feb.22-27.......Region Tournament........................................................TBA
Feb. 2........Sat...........Sub-State.................................................................TBA
Mar. 6-9........State Tournament.........................................................Murfreesboro
Last year Christian Academy of Knoxville’s boys basketball team endured its share of growing pains. An inexperienced and young roster combined with crucial mistakes and a difficult schedule made things extremely tough for the Warriors in 2017-18. “We were young last year,” said CAK head coach Shane Wells, who has begun his 10th season at the school. “We had three seniors last year, but they didn’t really get a chance to play before last year because we had a (big) senior class the year before.

“We had nine seniors (in 2016-2017) when we had a pretty good deal of success. I expect us to be better this year because we have experience,” he added. “So many of these guys played a lot last year. Last year, we had three seniors and they never really played much varsity basketball before last year.”

The Warriors went 12-18 last year, but they nearly made the state sectional round of the playoffs. This despite the fact CAK played a schedule that included eight games against opponents that either played for or won state championships. And many of those games were close. “We were 12-18 but we could’ve very easily been 15-15, 16-14 or even 17-13,” Wells said. “We were better than a 12-18 team. We played a lot of good teams. “Our schedule will be a little easier this year.”

CAK has several players who picked up some valuable varsity experience and they’ll be relied on heavily this year. “We have eight or nine guys who played a lot last year,” Wells said. “So experience will be one of your strengths but we have to shoot the ball better this season.”

Veterans will combine with some talented freshmen to provide depth. “We have eight or nine guys who are very similar,” he said “We have six guys who are really good but we don’t have the one great player.”

Top returners for the Warriors include Turner Heitzman (senior, guard/forward/center); John Ogle (junior, forward); Jason Ozment (senior, guard/forward); Dayne Davis (senior, guard); Luke Etherton (junior, guard); and Davis Brady (senior, guard).

Key newcomers are Denzel Jackson (freshman, point guard); Jaydon Housewright (freshman, point guard); Wyatt Shoemaker (freshman, guard); Jaleek Harrison (freshman, guard); Tyree Gibson (freshman, guard); Noah Olsen (sophomore, center); Griffin Parker (sophomore, guard) and Jackson Igou (sophomore, guard).

Christian Academy of Knoxville’s girls basketball team won 22 games last season, but the Lady Warriors will have a new head coach this year as Abby Williams replaces Caitlin Hollifield, who is now at West.

Williams brings a wealth of coaching experience to CAK. Previously an assistant at Bearden, she reversed the fortunes at South-Doyle High School after winning a Knox County Middle School championship at South-Doyle Middle.

Now she’s looking to make her mark on the program that went 22-12 last season. “Our expectation is to have a winning record,” Williams said. “... To go far in this game, you have to win some games that you’re not expected to win.”

The Lady Warriors compete in Division II-A East Region District 1 and they won’t have many opportunities to relax. Cedar Bluff rival Webb School of Knoxville won the state championship last year.

“Our district is going to be better than it was last year,” said Williams, who played volleyball and basketball at Halls High School.

As for her team, “We’re going to be a small team numbers-wise,” Williams said. “Depth is always going to be an issue for us because we’re pulling from a small group of kids and you’re fighting club volleyball and indoor track for kids.”

One key newcomer for CAK, sophomore center Caroline Meyers, played club volleyball last winter and Williams said she’s hoping that Meyers will bolster her team’s inside presence.

“Having Caroline Meyers is really going to help us and I think we’ll have a strong post presence this year,” she said.

Williams, who is still becoming acquainted with her new team at CAK, said Lady Warriors’ post play could be a strength this season.

“It’s just so early,” she added. “But I’m looking for us to have a strong post presence. We have to utilize our presence in the post.”

In addition to lack of depth, areas of concern for the Lady Warriors include ball handling.

“We turned the ball over too much last year,” Williams said. “We have to get better at handling the ball and we have to get better at creating shots.”

Top returners include Claire Brock (senior, point guard); Hannah Carroll (junior, forward); Kennedy Smith (senior, forward); Ellie Fussell (senior, guard) and Mackenna Mozingo (junior, forward).

### 2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Friendship Christian (Hall of Fame)</td>
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<td>Heritage Thanksgiving Tourney vs Maryville</td>
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<td>November 25</td>
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<td>December 7</td>
<td>Friendship Christian</td>
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<td>December 10</td>
<td>The Kings Academy*</td>
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<td>December 11</td>
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<td>December 21</td>
<td>Five Star Prep Classic vs Mt Pisgah</td>
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<td>December 27</td>
<td>Harriman Christmas Tourney vs Rockwood</td>
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<td>Harriman Christmas Tourney vs Midway</td>
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<td>December 29</td>
<td>Harriman Christmas Tourney vs Oakdale</td>
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<td>January 5</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>CCS* (Senior Night)</td>
<td>Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>Away</td>
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</tbody>
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**December**
- 28: Harriman Christmas Tourney vs Midway (Away)
- 29: Harriman Christmas Tourney vs Oakdale (Away)

**January**
- 5: Pigeon Forge (Home)
- 8: Grace* (Away)
- 11: Webb* (Away)
- 15: FBA* (Home)
- 18: The Kings Academy* (Away)
- 22: Grace* (Home)
- 25: Webb* (Home)
- 26: Silverdale (Away)
- 29: CCS* (Senior Night) (Home)

**February**
- 1: Catholic (Away)
Despite no post-season chance, CCS boys expect to be ‘quick, disciplined’

Because his program is being punished due to an athletic department decision to not field a Concord Christian School varsity football team in 2018, second-year head coach Scott Graham and his CCS varsity boys basketball team will not be eligible for post-season play.

However, “The good thing is we don’t have any seniors,” Graham said.

The key for Graham’s Lions “is to be small and quick and disciplined,” he said. “We have a lot of small guards who are pretty quick and can shoot.”

However, Graham emphasized his role is to “completely re-write and break down the program and make it is more disciplined so we can start building up from a better foundation.”

As for the biggest concern, he said, “Probably a lack of size and athleticism … We’re not blessed with a lot of height.”

In addition, “the schedule,” he added. “We’re in one of the toughest districts in Tennessee at our level.”

Bryce Baxter, a junior power forward named Third Team All-District last season, “is a workhorse,” Graham said. “He also has a nose for the ball. He always seems to be able to get an extra rebound. And he’s not afraid to be undersized (6-foot-1).”

“He was one of our leading scorers (last season),” the coach added.

Graham said guards Chase Johnson (sophomore) and juniors Eric Bachman and Josh Gilder “are going to be big for us. They are guards that are quick and can get to shooting pretty quick when they get hot.”

‘Balanced’ CCS Lady Lions look to Penland for leadership

Proud to have “good balance between upper classmen leadership and freshmen energy” with his Concord Christian School Lady Lions, second-year head coach Shane Mynatt has a clear offensive strategy.

“We’re not going to try and bang it inside, we’re going to do as much getting it down the floor as we can and shoot threes as much as we can,” he said. “I’ve got some really good shooters.”

As for concerns, “We’re really young ... we have seven freshmen and just four upperclassmen,” Mynatt said.

“They freshmen are going to have to step in and play immediately.

“We’re probably about eight or nine deep this year. ... We were only about seven deep last year,” he added.

The Lady Lions are coming off an 8-10 record last season, which included the program’s first district win after beating First Baptist Academy at CCS.

Small forward Ashley Penland (5-foot-9) “can play any of the five positions on the floor,” Mynatt said, adding the junior “scored over 250 points” last season. “She was probably among the top five scorers in our district. Her freshman year she scored about 225. She played on our team as a eighth-grader and scored about 200 points.”

Senior Savannah Mynatt, a shooting guard, also is slated to start, as is returning shooting guard Madi Mee, a junior.

Senior Liz Dawson, a post, will be the team’s lone inside scoring threat. “Liz hasn’t played since middle school, but she’s one of our star athletes on the volleyball team.”

Mynatt said freshman transfer Kylie Phillips already “has played high school basketball ... as a seventh-grader and an eighth-grader.”

See LIONS on Page 13

2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

Nov. 3 (boys) ........ Sat ........... Rumble at the Rock Play Day (V)
Nov. 16 ................. Fri ........... Faith Christian Academy (V) ........................................ HOME
Nov. 20 ................. Tues .......... Maryville Christian .................................................. HOME
Nov. 27 ................. Tues .......... Mt. Pisgah Christian Academy (V) .......................... HOME
Nov. 30 ................. Fri ........... First Baptist Academy ............................................... Away
Dec. 3 ..................... Mon .......... Webb ................................................................. Away
Dec. 7 ..................... Fri ........... KACHEA ............................................................ HOME
Dec. 11 (boys) ........... Tues .......... Knoxville Ambassadors ....................................... HOME
Dec. 14 ................. Fri ........... J. Frank White Academy ........................................... Away
Dec. 15 ..................... Sat .......... Tri-Cities Christian ..................................................... HOME
Dec. 17 ..................... Mon .......... King’s Academy ....................................................... Away
Jan. 4 ..................... Fri .......... Berean ................................................................. HOME
Jan. 5 ................. Sat .............. Tri-Cities Christian/KACHEA ..................................... Away
Jan. 8 ..................... Tues .......... First Baptist Academy ............................................... HOME
Jan. 11 ..................... Fri .......... Maryville Christian ..................................................... Away
Jan. 15 ..................... Tues .......... Grace Christian ......................................................... HOME
Jan. 18 ..................... Fri .......... Berean (V) ............................................................... Away
Jan. 21 (boys) ........... Mon .......... Knoxville Ambassadors ....................................... HOME
Jan. 22 ..................... Tues .......... J. Frank White Academy (Sr. Night) .......................... HOME
Jan. 25 ..................... Fri .......... King’s Academy ....................................................... HOME
Jan. 29 ..................... Tues .......... CAK ................................................................. Away
Feb. 2 ................. Sat .............. Grace Christian ....................................................... Away
Mike Hutchens has been coaching in Knoxville Catholic High School’s boys basketball program for more than three decades, and this season will be his 30th year as Fighting Irish head coach.

The Irish played for a Class AA state championship in 2017 before making the leap to District 4-AAA in 2017-18.

The Irish went 21-8 last season. “We’ll be better later in the season than we will be early,” Hutchens said. “We’ll be young. I’ll probably start three freshmen.”

The Irish have some of East Tennessee’s more talented players.

“Our major weaknesses will be youth and depth,” Hutchens said. However, in the paint “we’ll be 6-(foot)-11 (Handje Tamba, a freshman starting center); and 6-9 (Akeem Oduispe, a junior power forward who played on the junior varsity team last season), and both those kids are (Division)-1 (college) prospects,” Hutchens said. “But we have (an enrollment of) 450 kids and were playing (Class) AAA basketball. We’re competing against schools with 2,000 kids.”

Other key players include Ryan MacDonald (senior, guard); Sam Sompayrac (sophomore, guard); Presley Patterson (freshman, guard); Recce Harps (senior, forward); Brian Edwards (freshman, guard); Connor Kuerschen (senior, guard); Hank Bertelkamp (senior, guard); Will Pickering (senior, guard); Major Hollin (junior, forward) and Chris Daley (junior, guard).

Patterson will start at the shooting guard spot and Edwards will handle point guard duties. Hutchens expects significant contributions from the trio of freshmen.

See IRISH on Page 13

KNOXVILLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

2018-2019 Basketball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>Austin-East</td>
<td>Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>Maryville*</td>
<td>Home</td>
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<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>Heritage*</td>
<td>Away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>Grace</td>
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<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>CAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 4</td>
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<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>West*</td>
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<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td>Farragut*</td>
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<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>Hardin Valley*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 20-22</td>
<td>Heritage Christmas Tourney (Time not set)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 27</td>
<td>Karns (Safe-T-Tourney)</td>
<td>4 p.m. girls/5:30 boys</td>
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<td>Dec. 28</td>
<td>Austin-East (Safe-T)</td>
<td>4 p.m. girls/5:30 boys</td>
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<td>Lenoir City*</td>
<td>Away</td>
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<td>Jan. 10</td>
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<td>Wm Blount*</td>
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<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>West*</td>
<td>Away</td>
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<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>Lenoir City*</td>
<td>Away</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12-20</td>
<td>District 4-AAA tourney (Maryville)</td>
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Boys Head Coach
Mike Hutchens

Girls Head Coach
Freeman pinkney

Knoxville Catholic High School’s girls basketball program has had more than its share of struggles in recent years.

Last season evolved into a nightmare, but the Lady Irish have a new coach and he has wasted little time turning the culture around.

Freeman Pinkney takes the reins of a team that won just two games last season.

The Lady Irish haven’t had a winning season in nearly two decades.

This summer, however, the 30-year old Pinkney said he already witnessed changes in his team’s competitive spirit.

“Last year, they depended on Rachel DeBaar (who graduated last spring) for a lot of their scoring and the other girls didn’t take a lot of shots. I would like to see us work more as a team on scoring the ball this season. We didn’t score the ball very well last year,” Pinkney said.

“We’re moving into (Division-II) and a different district next year, and I’m using this season as a springboard,” he added. “We’re going to win some games this year and these teams, our opponents, are going to know that they’ve played a game after they’ve played Knoxville Catholic.

“I love it here. The kids have worked hard and they’re students of the game.”

Key returners for the Lady Irish include Mary Iverson (a senior who will see significant time at both forward spots); Kennedy McFarland (junior, forward); Kennedy Ann Noe (a sophomore, who will be a shooting guard and run the point this season); Natalie Perry (a senior who will play both guard positions this season); Hannah Southall (senior, guard) and Emily Pichiarella (senior, power forward).

Catholic also has a pair of newcomers looking to make an early impact in Genevieve Fisher (a sophomore center) and Samantha Kaczmarek (a junior point guard who transferred from a school in Ohio).
Quickness, shooting is Davis’ formula for success with Knox Christian boys

Utilizing quickness, which lends itself to a fast-pace, and good shooters is the formula for success with Knoxville Christian School boys basketball this season.

“Our biggest strength is probably going to be quickness, just getting out there and getting up and down the floor speed-wise,” Patrick Davis, head coach, said. “And we’ve got a lot of good shooters.”

As for concerns, “We’re going to have to be a running team. We’re not very big in size,” he said. “Rebounding will be a challenge.

“I have three seniors and lots of sophomores and freshmen,” Davis added. “We’re going to have to build from the bottom up. Probably 80 percent of my team is freshmen and sophomores.”

The one starter returning from last season is senior small forward/post Blake King (6-foot-3), team captain. “He’s been here all four years,” Davis said. “He’s a good leader on the floor. Knows a lot about what’s going on.”

Senior Carlo Amone, a shooting guard, “played on the international team, he’s here from Italy,” Davis said. “He’s a great all around player.”

Sophomore captain Henry Sowards, a shooting guard, played varsity last season. “He’s a great role player, and a great shooter,” Davis said. “He’s probably one of the top players on this team right now. Plays hard all of the time.”

Back from an ankle injury is junior Keenan O’Leary (6-foot-4). “He’s always played guard, so he’s going to have to take on a different role, playing a little bit more post this year,” Davis said. “He’s a great outside shooter.”

Sophomore Chris Barnes, a shooting guard, “will help us out. He’s a good shooter,” Davis said.

Sophomore McKinley Clark (6-foot-3), a post, “is a great learner. He’s what a coach wants,” Davis said.

Davis said he was anticipating adding “two more players to our roster” without giving details about those players, except to say “they’re supposed to be a big asset to help us out size-wise.”

Other players are Elias Quick, Austin Dunham, Becon Hu, Jasper Lueer, Nikola Pesic, Tanner Milam and Austin Wilson.

While lacking in depth and experience — with a small roster — the Lady Knights of Knoxville Christian School have impressed Alisha Wright, Lady Knight first-year head coach, with one important quality.

“I think they’ll be good because they have a good attitude and they are ready to play and give it their all,” Wright said.

As for concerns, “A lack of experience,” Wright said. “We’re a new team and a lot of them haven’t played before, and they’re just coming into their own, so we’re going to have a lot of work ahead of us.”

As of press deadline, “We haven’t had that first game yet to figure out where we stand,” the coach added. “Then I think they’ll go to work and put it together.”

Senior Hannah Brown, a small forward/power forward, “is a good shooter and she’s a pretty good ballhandler,” Wright said.

Senior Sydney O’Leary, a power forward/post, “is a strong post player. She gets in there and knocks and bangs and rebounds,” the coach said. “And she can shoot down on the low post.”

However, “I think we’re still going to try and run the ball,” Wright said about a fast-pace approach. “Our big girls can run, they can get up and down the floor.”

Ella Grenkoski, point guard, “is very quick, can push the ball down the floor, and she’s a fast learner,” the coach said. “You tell her to do something and she just executes.”

Sophomore shooting guard Brianna Wilson “is like the leader on the floor, she comes in here and she gets (the team) ready and she (has them) stretch it out and everything,” Wright said. “And get them focused.

“She’s kind of like my captain.”

With only eight players on the roster (at press deadline), “we still have a couple of slots open. We’re looking for some of the homeschooled girls who are not playing anywhere,” Wright said. “If they need a home, just come over to KCS.

“We’ll welcome them with open arms.”

Other Lady Knight players are Natalie Booth, Aicha Foster, Emily Sweeney and Keegan Walker.

BHS Boys
From page 8

we don’t take any of them lightly,” he said. “Whenever you win more games in your conference than you lose, you’ve done something. That goes for any conference at any level. No matter how good you think you are or how good people say you are, there’s always something that you can improve on.”

Last year, the Bulldogs developed a reputation as a second-half team.

“I would like to see us play with a bigger sense of urgency early in games,” Parrott said. “But we play some great opponents and a lot of the credit goes to them It’s like a fight, a title fight.

“We’re going to get everybody’s best shot. I would rather be known as a second-half team than a first-half team. Those second-half teams save your bacon sometimes.”
Hoops Basketball Preview | Farragut Press | November 15, 2018

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HVA Girls
From page 6

Rebounding without Cornelius “will be a challenge that will have to be taken on by the whole team,” the coach said. “We won’t be able to look at just one player to fill that deficit.”

Only two Lady Hawks “played significant minutes for us last year that we’ll be relying on this year,” Galloway said about senior Kiara Inman, a guard, and sophomore Malaka Grice, a forward.

“Both of them are very quick,” she added. “Kiara brings versatility and she also brings a strong presence on the defensive end.

“Malaka brings a lot of energy, and she had a keen ability to get to the rim.”

At point guard, “Allie Sexton has taken on the role,” Galloway said about the junior. “She’s doing a good job (so far) in practice distributing the basketball and getting us into what we need to be doing.”

Overall, “This group has been really enjoyable to coach,” Galloway said. “They are eager to learn and just soak everything up.”

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FHS Boys
From page 4

Turning to the junior point guard. “Both of those guys played important minutes for us last year.

“I expect (Geron) to have a big season.”

About junior post/power forward Alec Keathley, “once he comes back from football I expect him to play very well,” Higgins said.

“We’ve got a lot of good young guys as well.”

Among his younger Admirals, “We’ve got a couple who are going to play big minutes for us, and I expect big things from them,” the coach said. “Dillon Atwell (point guard) and Isaiah Smith (wing), they’re both freshmen.

“A pair of sophomores are going to play big minutes for us as well,” the Admirals skipper said about post players Trey Nesbitt and Jake Wallace.

“I expect big things out of those guys this season.”

Other Admirals looking to contribute are Jude Wren, Andrew Howell, Mack Ratliff, Owen Blake, Saish Malluri, Jack Wrapp and Colby Hale.

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FHS Girls
From page 4

experience because they’ve won. They’ve played on winning teams and they know how to win.

“In recent years, we haven’t had much depth. But we have depth and we have experience and that will make things a little better,” he added. “We have some good returners, and with our three newcomers we should have depth.”

Farragut will open its season at Alcoa tonight, Thursday, Nov. 15.

But they’ll likely face some stiff challenges as they play in District 4-AAA, which features Bearden (which made the Class AAA state semifinals last year), Maryville, William Blount, Hardin Valley Academy, William Blount and Heritage, which have all enjoyed recent success while Lenoir City has proven to be dangerous.

The district added two more successful coaches over the summer, as former Powell and Christian Academy of Knoxville head coach Caitlin Hollifield moved to West High (girls) and former Webb School of Knoxville Middle School coach Freeman Pinkney is now at Knoxville Catholic (girls).

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Irish
From page 11

“B.J. Edwards is going to be a good point guard. He’s 6-2 but he’s a freshman,” Hutchens said.

Odusipe, while not playing varsity last season, will be one of KCHS’s most improved players.

“He’s really come a long way,” the coach said. “He’s worked hard in the weight room. He’s benching 260 (pounds) and he’s leg pressing 390. He’s gotten a lot stronger.”

Lions
From page 10

Junior guard Walker Simpson, a homeschooler, looks to contribute.

“My goal is to be competitive in every game and improve every game,” Graham said.

Other Lions are juniors Eli Patterson, Nikolaj Murasov and Adrian Johansen, sophomores Owen Prince and Gavyn Gregg and freshmen Hunter Wright and Harry Pennoyer.
As Ricky Norris prepares for his 10th season as Webb School of Knoxville’s boys basketball head coach, expectations for he and the Spartans are simple but lofty.

“We just want to play up to our potential,” said Norris, who guided Webb to an appearance in the Division II-A State Championship game last season where it lost a heartbreaker to Knoxville rival Grace Christian Academy. “If we play up to our potential we’ll have a chance to win the state championship.

“We have the experience from last year and that was a good experience, but hopefully it’s an experience that will bring us a little hunger, make us a little hungrier.”

The Spartans, who went 29-6 last year, had the perfect combination of talent and chemistry on their ride to the state championship game. “Last year, we had five seniors who sacrificed some individual stats for the team,” Norris said. “We had five great seniors that had a great chemistry.”

The coach said team chemistry will be the key to great things again this season.

“For us, it’s all going to be about chemistry. It’s all going to come down to that,” Norris said. “These kids will play hard. My top six (players) got some valuable varsity experience last year. I’m super excited about our top six and their experience. You just can’t simulate that.”

Webb will have a heavy guard presence on the 2018-19 squad.

“It’s going to come down to our guard play; you win championships with guard play,” he said.

Key players for the Spartans include Charlie Wyrick (a senior guard who will begin his fourth year as a starter); Emory Lanier (a junior guard who has started in each of his first two seasons at the school); Tariq Daughton (a junior guard and two-year starter); Uriah Powers (junior, forward); David Sanger (sophomore, guard); Joseph Moore (sophomore, forward); Jaylon Green (freshman, point guard); Jackson Baker (sophomore, guard) and Owen Field (sophomore, guard).

The Spartans also will be joined by Heritage transfer point guard Luke Burnett, the Mountaineers’ top scorer last season. The junior will eligible Dec. 15.

WEBB SCHOOL OF KNOXVILLE

Spartans

Losing five key players, Webb seeks chemistry, has shooters

Despite the graduation of top scorer Haylee Luttrell, who helped Shelley Collier grab her sixth state championship in 20 seasons as head coach of Webb School of Knoxville girls basketball, the Spartans still have lots of firepower for 2018-19.

Casey Collier, star senior point guard, runs the Spartans offense.

“Casey being our leader, she has really grown tremendously in her game,” coach Collier said about the senior point guard, and her daughter, who is a Lipscomb University commitment. “We rely on her to really run our team to kind of set the tone on both ends.

“And she’s got a wealth of experience,” the coach added. “She’s played a big role since she’s been in eighth grade.

“It’s been a joy for me to watch the tremendous growth and leadership ability that she’s showed.”

Junior post Bailey Musrock “has grown, I think she’s now about 6-foot-1,” said Collier, who begins her 30nd year as a high school head coach. “She’s a much more aggressive player, more confident. And she’s a leader in her communications.”

Sophomore Catherine Hendershott earned All-Tournament honors at state last season, as a freshman, after scoring 15 points in the championship game.

“She can play the 2 (shooting guard), 3 (small forward), 4 (power forward) or 5 (center),” Collier said. “She’s one of our bigger players, so a lot of times she has to play the post.”

The team’s other senior, Zoya Amer, “is just a great teammate,” Collier said.

2018-2019 Schedule

Nov. 15 ....Gatlinburg Pittman ..... Away
Nov. 17 ....DB/Science Hill ...... Away
Nov. 17 ....Cleveland .............. Home
Nov. 17 ....Webb Bell Buckle..... Home
Nov. 30 ....Stone Memorial ...... Away
Dec. 3 .....Concord Christian ..... Home
Dec. 4......First Baptist Acad. .... Away
Dec. 7 .....Stone Memorial ...... Home
Dec. 11 ...Kings Academy........ Home
Dec. 14 ...FRA ...................... Away
Dec. 15 ...BGA .................... Away
Dec. 20 ...5 Star Prep Classic .... Fulton
Dec. 20 ...Hamilton Heights..... Away
Dec. 21 ....5 Star Prep Classic .... Fulton
Jan. 4 ......West.................... Away
Jan. 5 ......Baylor .................. Away
Jan. 8 ......Alcoa .................. Away
Jan. 11 ....CAK..................... Home
Jan. 14 ....West.................... Home
Jan. 18 ....Grace Christian ...... Away
Jan. 22 ....Alcoa................... Home
Jan. 25 ....CAK ..................... Away
Jan. 29 .....Kings Academy....... Away
Feb. 1 ......Grace Christian ...... Home
Feb. 5 ......Jefferson County ...... Home
Feb. 12 ... 5 Star Prep Classic ... Fulton
Feb. 15 ... Grace Christian ....... Home
Feb. 19 ...Malcolm deleg.... Away
Feb. 22 ... Grace Christian ...... Home
Feb. 26 ...Carver ....... Away
Feb. 28 ...Grace Christian ...... Away
Mar. 1 2018-19 Championship

Take it to the net and have a great 2018-2019 season!

Richard Briggs
TN State Senator

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Hoos Basketball Preview
A WINNING TRADITION

GIRLS VARSITY
State Tournament Appearances
State Tournament Runner-Up
State Tournament Championships

BOYS VARSITY
State Tournament Appearances
State Tournament Runner-Up
2018
Hanging of the Green

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018
6:00 PM

A Festival of Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018
6:00 PM

Keyboards at Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018
6:00 PM